GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:200
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2002
TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND SAUDI ARABIA
RAM SINGH KASWAN;Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the commodities which are being exported to Saudi Arabia;

(b) the total export made to that country during the last three years;

(c) whether the trade between India and Saudi Arabia has increased;

(d) if so, the percentage increase registered in trade during the above period;

(e) whether there is any possibility of further increase in the trade between the two countries;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the specific steps being taken by the Government to boost trade volume with Saudi Arabia?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a): Major items of export from India to Saudi Arabia include rice, textiles, engineering goods, plastic and linoleum products, tea, coffee, spices, cashew, tobacco, drugs and pharmaceuticals, leather products, electronics goods etc.

(b): India`s total exports to Saudi Arabia during the last three years are given below:-

RS. Crores

Year	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Value	3257.44	3228.01	3694.73

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta.

(c) & (d) : The bilateral trade between India and Saudi Arabia during the last three years is given below:

RS. Crores

Year	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Total trade	10962.54	16303.92	18399.00
% growth	(- 7.77%)	(48.72%)	(12.85%)

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta.

(e) & (f) : Yes, Sir. There is every possibility of further increase in the trade volume between the two countries, specially in view of the transition in the Saudi economy from state monopoly to privatization resulting in opening up of more sectors encouraging competition and foreign investment.

(g) : Steps to boost exports to Saudi Arabia include exchange of trade delegations, regular meetings of Joint Commission, participation in trade fairs / exhibitions, market surveys, organization of buyer - seller meets etc.